

St Patrick's Parish Bulletin



St. Patrick's Church, Quebec City

Mission Statement

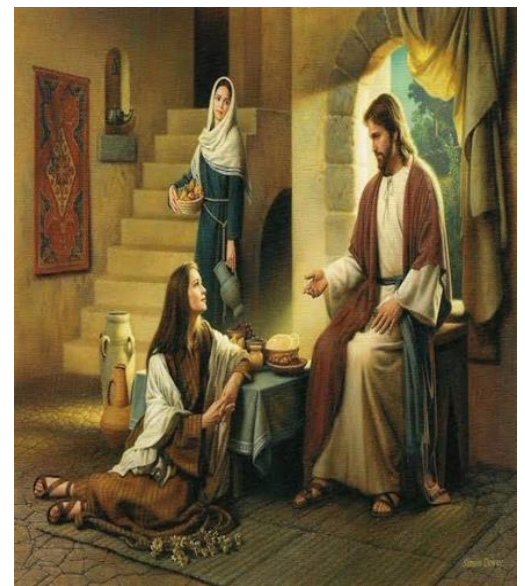
While honouring its Irish heritage, St. Patrick's Parish has a unique mission to live and share the teachings of Jesus Christ with Roman Catholics who worship in the English language in the Diocese.

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16th Sunday in Ordinary time, July 17th, 2022

The story of Jesus in the home of Martha and Mary complements the story of the Good Samaritan, which precedes it in Luke's Gospel. The story of the Samaritan opens with the words "a certain man." Today's reading opens with the words "a certain woman." The Samaritan is an example of how a disciple should see and act. Mary is an example of how a disciple should listen. Mary, a woman, is a marginalized person in society, like the Samaritan. Both do what is not expected of them. As a woman, Mary would be expected, like Martha, to prepare hospitality, instead she sits with the men around Jesus, to really listen to the teacher therefore breaking the social conventions.



But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

BULLETIN INFORMATION

Donations for Ukrainians in need

Since the invasion of their country in February 2022, many Ukrainian families, mostly women with young children, have sought refuge in Quebec.

There is now a donation box on the left side in the back of the church with the inscription "Donations for the Ukrainians in need". If you wish to contribute, special envelopes are available for this purpose in your pews. Please do not use them for the regular collection for the parish during Mass. They are only for donations for Ukrainians in need. Receipts for charitable donations can be issued for those who provide their parishioner number or their full name and address on the envelope. Your financial offering is important. Please, give generously and thank you for the donations we have already received. N.B. If you make a check, it must be made out to « St. Patrick's Parish »

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Reflection

One of the great gifts we can give each other is the gift of our attention. We tend to be very aware when people are paying attention to us and when they are not. It can be disconcerting to find ourselves saying something to someone and then to get a response which indicates that the person has not really been listening to us. On the other hand, we value very much those who attend to us when we have something to say, especially if they are capable of noticing not only the words we speak but what is going on within us which our words may only be partially expressing. As we know, real attention goes beyond listening to the words someone might be speaking; it involves attending to the whole person.

Being truly attentive to someone will express itself in a variety of ways. Sometimes it will involve very careful listening. At other times real attentiveness will demand some kind of activity on our part. A good example of this latter kind of attentiveness was the Samaritan in last Sunday's gospel reading. When he noticed the broken traveller on the roadside, he attended to him by jumping into action: bandaging his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them, lifting him on his own mount, carrying him to the inn, looking after him there, handing over money to the innkeeper and promising to visit on his way back. Here indeed, was a marvellous quality of attention. We find something similar in today's first reading. In response to the arrival of the three guests, Abraham jumps into action: running to meet his guests, rushing to his wife Sarah to give her instructions for the meal, running to take a calf from his flock, giving it to the servant to prepare, placing the prepared calf along with cream and milk before the visitors. Both the frenetic activity of the Samaritan and of Abraham are model responses to people in need, be it the need of healing in the first instance or the need of hospitality in the second.

We all need the kind of attention from time to time that the Samaritan and Abraham provided. Every so often, we need people to go into overdrive for us – especially when it might be a case of life or death, as in the story of the Good Samaritan. However, we also know from experience that there are times when we need a different kind of attention – the kind of attention which does not involve someone 'doing' something for us, taking all kinds of initiatives on our behalf. Indeed, it can be somewhat annoying when, for example, someone starts doing things for us that we don't want done or need doing, when all we really want is their attentive presence. There are different forms of attentiveness or hospitality; there is the hospitality of activity and the hospitality of presence. In today's gospel reading, Martha exemplifies the hospitality of activity and Mary the hospitality of presence. It seems that on this occasion, it was the hospitality of presence rather than of activity that Jesus was really looking for. In that sense, Mary read the situation better than Martha did. In the words of Jesus, she chose the better part. Jesus was not looking for an elaborate meal; he had something to say and he wanted a listening ear. It was Mary who noticed this and who sat at his feet to listen to his word. Mary was more hospitable on this occasion because she was more attentive to the needs of the guest than Martha was. There is a time to listen and there is a time to get busy. As the Book of Qoheleth puts it, 'for everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven'. Wisdom consists in knowing what is appropriate at any particular time. A lot of people feel sorry for Martha when they hear this morning's gospel reading. Yet, she was fretting

unnecessarily over Jesus. Martha shows us how, sometimes, the good can get in the way of the better. On this occasion, it was Mary who chose the better part. Today's gospel reading invites us to ask, 'What is it that love requires of us at this time?'

In our own relationship with the Lord there is a time for both sitting at his feet to listen to him and for rolling up our sleeves and getting down to some serious work. We need to be attentive to both the Lord of the work and the work of the Lord. The Lord needs us at times to be the good Samaritan to others, to share in his compassionate work of serving others in practical ways. He needs us to visit the sick, to support the weak, to help carry the burdens of others. There are other times when he needs us and wants us to be still before him and to ponder his word. This is the two-fold rhythm that is at the heart of following him, listening prayerfully to the word of God and then keeping it by the way we live. In these busy times, it can be the rhythm of listening to his word in prayerful silence that can get neglected. We have just as much to learn from the prayerful attitude of Mary in today's gospel reading, as much as from the busy attitude of Abraham in today's first reading.

Mass Schedule and intentions.

Saturday July 16th at 4:PM; Monique O'Connor from Teresa Dubois

Donald Neatt from Colleen bilodeau

Sunday July 17th at 10:00:AM Helen Dinan from Alec Mc Garrety

Elgean Schiller from Gina and John Klassen

Monday July 18th **No Mass**

Tuesday July 19th at 11:30:AM Adrien Fleury from Barbara Fleury

Wednesday July 20th **No Mass**

Thursday July 21st **No Mass**

Friday July 22nd **No Mass**

Saturday July 23rd at 4:PM Personnal intention from a parishioner

Sunday July 24th at 10.AM Charlotte and Fred Pichard from Helen Pichard

Mary Johnston from Steve, Patrick and Alain.

NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK.

Last week collection was \$587.30 including the Funeral Mass. Thank you for your generosity.

We also celebrated on Friday July 8th the Funeral Mass of Alice Bleau. Let us pray for the repose of her soul.

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